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A45

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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D), B6

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ORIGIN EUR-01

INFO LOG-00 ARA-01 DODE-00 ADS-00 SSC-01 /003R

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:DWHEARNE

APPROVED BY EUR/WE:JHMADDEN

ARA-TF1:MKAPLIN

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O 050125Z FEB 92
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035003

FOLLOWING CARACAS 01095 DATED FEB 04 SENT ACTION SECSTATE,
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PANAMA, AND THE WHITEHOUSE AND INFO
FOR THE ARA COLLECTIVE IS BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.
QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 01095
E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PGOV, MASS, CASC, PREL, VE
SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED COUP, MESSAGE NO 2

REF: CARACAS 01094 (COUP MESSAGE NO. 1, NOTAL, BEING

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REPEATED.

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON
DATE/CASE ID: 21 JUL 2008 200503656

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2. AN ATTEMPTED COUP IS IN PROGRESS. PRESIDENT PEREZ SPOKE WITH THE AMBASSADOR BY TELEPHONE SHORTLY AFTER 0200 LOCAL TIME, TO SAY THAT THE ATTEMPT WAS "IN THE NATURE OF A PUTSCH" ATTEMPT BY TWO UNITS: PARACHUTISTS FROM MARACAY, AND THE AYALA REGIMENT IN CARACAS. CAP EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE TO THE AMBASSADOR. HE IS AT VENEVISION (TELEVISION) STUDIOS. CAP DID NOT ASK DIRECTLY FOR ANYTHING, BUT SAID THAT WASHINGTON EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY WITH DEMOCRACY WOULD HELP.

3. [REDACTED] SPOKE TO THE DCM BY TELEPHONE A FEW MINUTES AFTERWARDS. HE TRANSMITTED A LESS OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF EVENTS. HE SAID HE HAD TALKED TO CAP, WHO WAS "SURROUNDED" AT THIS TIME. HE INDICATED THAT THE COUP PERPETRATORS HAD ATTACKED THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND CONTROL WAS STILL BEING CONTESTED. HE SAID THAT THE "LA CASONA" PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE HAD BEEN "TAKEN" BY THE REBELS. THERE WAS FIGHTING IN MARACAIBO ALSO. [REDACTED] ALSO ALLEGED THAT CHANNELS 2 AND 8 OF LOCAL TV HAD BEEN TAKEN OVER. (NOTE: THEIR BROADCASTING HAS BEEN NORMAL

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THUS FAR.) [REDACTED] HE WOULD BE TELEPHONING VENEZUELAN AMB. CONSALVI IN WASHINGTON TO REQUEST THAT HE SEEK A SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT FROM THE USG.

4. AT 0228, COPEI LEADER EDUARDO FERNANDEZ SPOKE ON CHANNEL 4 (VENEVISION, THE SAME CHANNEL USED BY CAP FOR HIS SPEECH EARLIER), AND EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER. FERNANDEZ CALLED ON ALL SOLDIERS TO REMAIN TRUE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER AND THEIR OATH OF LOYALTY. ALL VENEZUELAN SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION; VENEZUELA IS A COUNTRY OF BALLOTS, NOT BULLETS. HE CLAIMED THAT COMMANDERS ARE SUPPORTING THE CONSTITUTION ALSO, AND CLOSED BY ONCE MORE EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH CAP AND THE CONSTITUTION.

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6. EMBASSY CONSTITUTED AN EMERGENCY TASK FORCE AT 0145
LOCAL TIME AND ASSEMBLED THE EAC. SKOL
UNQUOTE BAKER

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